

Behavioral Indicators

Cigarette smokers: Fifty-seven (57) percent of respondents report they have considered themselves a “smoker” at some time. Currently, 32.5% of the respondents are smokers. Male smokers in the survey represent 30.7% and female smokers represent 33.9% of the population.

It is estimated 26.5% of Tennesseans smoke cigarettes: 28% male and 25.1% female. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States for both men and women.

Behavioral Indicators (Continued)

In the publication “Tennessee’s Healthy People 2000,” Cheatham County averaged 19 lung cancer deaths between 1991-1993. This amounted to a 61.9 rate per 100,000 population and a ranking of 5th in the State for deaths from lung cancer. The county rate is 30% higher than the State rate of 47.5. The county rate is 47% higher than the Year 2000 National Objective of 42.0.

Mammograms: Sixty-one (61) percent of women ages 30-45 and 78% of women 45-65 have had a mammogram. Of those women having a mammogram, 63% were performed in the past year and 84% were performed within the past two years. As a comparison, 57% of women ages 30-45 and 97% of women ages 45-65 in Williamson County have had a mammogram.

Clinical Breast Exam: Ninety (90) percent of women ages 30-45 and 84% of women ages 45-65 have had a clinical breast exam. Of those women having a clinical breast exam, 72% were performed within the past year and 90% were performed within the past two years. For purposes of comparison, 98% of women ages 30-45 and 97% of women ages 45-65 in Williamson County have had a clinical breast exam.

Breast Cancer Mortality Rates for women ages 40+ and 50+ in Cheatham County are higher than the rates for the Mid-Cumberland Region and the State of Tennessee. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of deaths among women in the United States. Early detection and intervention can reduce breast cancer mortality by as much as 30 percent.

In the publication “Tennessee’s Healthy People 2000,” Cheatham County averaged 4 deaths of females from breast cancer between 1991-1993. This amounts to a rate of 20.5 per 100,000 population. Although this rate exceeds the state rate of 22.4, it is below the Year 2000 National Objective of 20.5. It should be noted that the county rate is deemed unreliable due to the relative standard error exceeds 30%.

Pap Smear: Ninety-three (93) percent of all female respondents report having a pap smear. Of that number, 68% of the test were performed within the past year, and 83% were performed within the past two years. As a comparison, 95% of all female respondents in Williamson County report having a pap smear.